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February 18, 1993

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Susan M. White, Senior Reclamation Biologist *SMW*

RE: Removal of Ball Park from the Permit Area, Bear Canyon Mine, Co-Op Mining Company, ACT/015/025, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

Synopsis

Bear Canyon Mine has proposed to remove the Ball Park topsoil storage area from the disturbed and permit area boundaries.

Analysis

R645-301-341 states that all lands disturbed by coal mining will be reclaimed and comply with, R645-301-357, the extended liability period. The Ball Park area was originally disturbed for the purpose of storing topsoil for reclamation of the coal mine. This activity is considered coal mining and must meet the applicable bond release requirements prior to deletion from the permit area.

The postmining land use for the Bear Canyon mine area as stated by the owner is "wildlife, recreation and livestock grazing" (page 4A-2 of the permit). Recreation is described in the permit as picnicking, hunting, and camping. County zoning ordinances classify the permit area as MG-1, Mining and Grazing, and CE-1, Critical Environment. The current permit does not allow for retention of a ball park as part of the postmining land use.

The following steps must be followed in order to delete the Ball Park from the permit area:

1. Follow the criteria for an alternative postmining land use under R645-301-413.300.
2. Seek a variance from approximate original contour restoration requirements as outlined in R645-302-270.

3. Meet the appropriate success standards for revegetation and water quality after the appropriate liability period.

Recommendation

Deny the proposal to delete the Ball Park from the permit area.

cc: Jesse Kelley
Henry Sauer